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[said second step,] when said start point and/or end point of said desired second data are/is input [at said first step], generating [generates] said assisting data corresponding to said start point and/or end point and recording [records] said assisting data in said second region of said recording medium (file system renewal).

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1, 9, 16-21, 23, and 25-28 have been amended. In the office action mailed July 6, 2000, the Examiner rejected claims 1-32. Applicant addresses the Examiner's rejections below.

I. Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sasakura (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,241).

Claim 1 as amended calls for, among others, input means for inputting a start point and an end point of desired second data, **wherein said second data is a portion of said first data to be recorded or already recorded** in said recording medium by said recording means; and control means, when said start point and end point of said second data are designated through said input means, for controlling said recording means **so as to endlessly-record and overwrite a portion of said first data in said recording medium that excludes said second data** while avoiding a [the] recording region of said recording medium in which said second data has been recorded.

Sasakura does not teach or suggest that said second data is a portion of said first data to be recorded or already recorded or control means, when said start point and end point of said second data are designated through said input means, for controlling said recording means so as to endlessly-record and overwrite a portion of said first data in said recording medium that excludes said second data while avoiding a recording region of said recording medium in which said second data has been recorded. For all these reasons, claim 1 as amended, and those claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over Sasakura.

Claims 2, 7, 9-14, 16-21, and 23-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasakura in view of Schuler (U.S. Patent No. 5,532,830). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Sasakura in view of Shirakawa et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,949,953). Independent claims 9, 16, and 23 have been amended in a manner similar to claim 1. Thus, Applicant herein renews all of the arguments put forth above in distinguishing claim 1 over the references relied upon by the Examiner and respectfully submits that at least for the same reasons, amended claims 9, 16 and 23, and those claims dependent therefrom, are patentable.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner's reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Service" Label No. EL38733658745, postage paid in an envelope, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on Dec. 29, 2000

Dated: 12-29-00 By: Elizabeth A. Reicker
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